

**N.H. EMERGENCY MEDICAL & TRAUMA SERVICES
COORDINATING BOARD**

Monadnock Community Hospital - Peterborough, NH

September 18, 2003

Members Present: Dave Duquette, Fred Heinrich, David Hogan, Janet Houston, Dr. Joe Mastromarino, Dr. Doug McVicar, Shawn Mitchell, Chief Sue Prentiss, Susan Reeves, Dr. Joe Sabato, Dr. John Sutton, Dr. Norm Yanofsky.

Members Absent: Steve Achilles, Eileen Bartlett, Tom Blanchette, Paul Gamache, Stephen Grise, Karen Lord, Jackie Normile, Dianne Roberts, Dr. Clare Wilmot.

Guests: Rob Atwater, Jon Bouffard, Donna York Clark, Jeanne Erickson, Christian Giller, Steve Robins, Gary Zirpolo.

Bureau Staff: Liza Burrill, Educational Coordinator; Kathy Doolan, Field Services Coordinator; Fred von Recklinghausen, Research Coordinator; Will Owen, ALS Coordinator.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Item 1. The meeting of the EMS & Trauma Services Coordinating Board was called to order by Dr. Joe Sabato, Chair at 1:25 PM on September 18, 2003 at Monadnock Community Hospital, Peterborough, New Hampshire.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Item 1. **July 17, 2003 Minutes: Motion** was made by S. Mitchell and seconded by F. Heinrich to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1. - N.H. EMS Medical Control Board (MCB) Report

Dr. Joe Mastromarino reported for the MCB a summary of the morning meeting (9/18/03). Topics included discussion on Credentialing/MRH responsibilities in rules, the ALS "Task Force", Colloquium, CPAP – a one-year continuance of the project, ALS list of suggested equipment, Child Fatality Review Committee/Letter to support NH Poison Center, EMT-I status. **(Please refer to the September 18, 2003, MCB Minutes for more detailed information).**

Item 2. – NH Bureau of EMS Report

Chief Prentiss referred to the written report included in each member's packet. The highlights are:

- **NH EMS Awards** – 2003 is the eighth year of the Annual EMS Awards – they will be presented at the North Country EMS Conference in Bartlett on October 18, 2003.
Recipients: **Unit of the Year** – Monroe FAST Squad
 Achievement Award – Richard Cooper
 Heroism Award – Salem Fire Department–Group 4
 Educator of the Year – Jennifer Frenette
 The “Connor Honor” – Dr. Doug McVicar
- **Fire and Emergency Services Instructor Training** – The first program is scheduled to begin in Manchester during October. An experienced group of EMS Instructor/Coordinators (EMS I/C) has been assembled to teach this upcoming program. There are many more applicants than seats available in this program but these difficulties are being worked out.
- **Instructor Reciprocity** – A process is now in place for those individuals looking for licensure as an EMS I/C, who can document training in approved educational methodology and other requirements, to apply to the Bureau.
- **Protocol development and Implementation** – The Protocol Committee is working diligently on this document and new process. Credentialing and coordinating a meeting for all Medical Directors in November is also under discussion and in the planning stages.
- **Radio Interoperability** – The Department of Safety is reviewing the capabilities of current communication systems between Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement statewide in all effected agencies. Representatives from each of these disciplines are involved in this review and planning process. Funding is being explored for future efforts to make communications between the effected agencies a non-issue. This project is still in the early stages.
- **Practical Exam Process** - The Education section is presenting to all Regional councils and requesting input to the system in order to create a statewide exam process. A final report will be presented at the November Coordinating Board meeting.
- **Pediatric AED Use** – A mailing went out to all EMS Units with an update to the Patient Care Protocol (Local Option 5.1) to revise the protocol to read “Children under the age of 8 years old (or approximately 25kg) should not be defibrillated by AED’s unless specifically authorized by on-line Medical Control”. At lease two vendors are selling pads for pediatric use, the Bureau has begun monitoring the AED Registry forms for any purchases of these types of machines and will notify the local EMS Units.

- **Airway Management Protocols – EOA** – The Bureau Chief is working with the Department of Safety Legal Council to create a waiver/rule change to cover the elimination of EOA's from requirements since the Medical Control Board has approved the discontinuance of this airway adjunct and replacement with the combitube device.
- **Rural AED 2003** –. The Bureau is awaiting word on the 2003 Grant from US DHHS Rural Access AED Project. The Regional Councils, North Country Health Consortium and DHHS will continue to work with the Bureau on placement of future machines once the grant is approved. The focus of the 2003 grant will be public access and partnering with business to increase the availability of AED's in rural NH. 20 additional machines have been purchased under the 2002 grant and placement of these machines is being coordinated with the Regional Councils at this time.
- **Trauma System Grant & Conference** – The Trauma Conference is on November 12, 2003 in Meredith, NH – brochures are out! The application to continue the Trauma System Grant has been funded by the federal DHHS office as of August 31, 2003. The focus remains on building evaluation and monitoring capabilities for the Trauma and EMS System through TEMSIS.
- **TEMSIS** – The project continues to move forward – planning groups have met, clinical and operational data points have been defined and two vendors of electronic or web based reporting systems have presented to the group. The Principal Investigator of the National EMS Data Set Project, Dr. Greg Mears, will meet with the TEMSIS group in November.
- **Advanced Life Support (ALS) Training Equipment** – A set of new ALS training equipment has been purchased and stored in Concord. The equipment is available to the New Hampshire EMS community under specific policies for use. BLS equipment has also been made available by the Bureau for training and testing in this past year's time.
- **Preparedness Update/SARS** – A new Preparedness section has been added to the Bureau's web site. Information on protection of our Providers and additional links will be available here. The Bureau is also in process of creating a presentation on airborne pathogens and EMS personal protective equipment for these cases – this will be made available to the EMS community.
- **Lebanon Field Office** - The opening of this office is getting closer every day! Everyone will be notified when Claremont is closed and Lebanon is open for business.

Item 3. – NH EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I) Status

W. Owen presented and gave handouts regarding the “EMT-Intermediate Skill Set – EMS Medical Directors Survey and Subcommittee Report”. This report summarized currently allowed EMT-I skills and medications by the Medical Resource Hospitals in the state. He also reported the recommendations of this committee on future actions regarding EMT-I’s (I’s) in the state. For now – status quo until receive information from the national Core Content Project, then review and make recommendations for change. Discussion took place regarding changes to rules that would need to take place once new recommendations were made and adopted.

The suggested ALS equipment list was also discussed and most agreed it needs to be updated and distributed.

Questions were raised about the use of cardiac drugs by “I’s”, and the need for skills/equipment for rhythm recognition. The use of ET’s by Intermediate also became part of this conversation and most agreed that there is not enough data on the effectiveness of this skill at the EMT-I level.

Discussion turned to the need for statewide protocols. Fred H. made a motion to recommend that the MCB create true statewide protocols. Sue R. seconded this motion so that it could be discussed further. After lengthy discussion Sue R. withdrew the “second” on the motion because the MCB is already moving in the direction of statewide protocols and stated to “let the engine keep moving” and let it happen. Janet H. modified the motion to say that this Board should “encourage” or “endorse” the move towards statewide protocols. Fred H. withdrew initial motion. Norm Y. made a new motion to state that the Coordinating Board “Encourages the Medical Control Board to move towards Statewide Protocols”, Fred H. seconded. **Discussion took place and the motion was approved.**

Item 4 & 5. – Sub-Committee Reports / Goal #6 & Goal #1

Goal #6 - Fred von Recklinhausen gave a presentation concerning Goal #6 “Performance Improvement Culture throughout EMS”.....Sue R. suggested that the Bureau give Units self-assessment tools and start with non-threatening items. Sue asked the group if they felt that the committee was moving in the right direction? The Board agreed that it was and to forge ahead.

Jeanne E. and Shawn. M asked that ALS and BLS be defined.

Goal #1 – Fred v R. and Sue P. presented information on the Bureaus’ Goal #1 “Research Capabilities for the Purposes of Prioritization of Resource Utilization, Policy Determination, Technology Assessment and Performance Improvement” - a handout was offered on proposed ideas. There will be a January 1st implementation within the Bureau. The clinical component will go to the MCB. The educational and functional components will be handled by the Bureau Chief and will include research; implementation plan, task forces needed and all will be tracked (tracking form needed).

Item 6. – Nominating Committee - Fred Heinrich reported that nominees had been contacted and that there were two parties interested in the Vice Chairman position: Steve Achilles and Steve Grise. A written vote took place and included all members present. Votes were tallied and **Steve Achilles will be the new Vice Chairman of the EMS & Trauma Service Coordinating Board.**

Item 9. - Items of Interest

- Sue P. asked that with all five Regional Councils approved, reports from these Councils to the Coordinating Board (CB) is a requirement and responsibility that should be taking place. Starting at the November CB meeting, a Regional Council will report in at each meeting thereafter. Region Two will be asked to report in November. Region Three will be asked to report in January and Region Five in March, then Region One and Four as they were only recently reactivated.

- Sue P. stated that Region Two had asked for an extension of their approval from the EMS & Trauma Service Coordinating Board as they are having some personnel changes take place. Dave D. made the motion to extend the approval and Sue R. seconded the motion. The Board approved this extension unanimously.

- Sue P. also stated that Goal #2 “A Progressive Educational Program that is Affordable, Accessible and Effective” will be reported on at the November CB meeting.

- Dave D. informed the group that the new dormitory at the Academy was open and 24 new rooms are available, conference rooms are also available and should be considered for EMS usage in the future.

- Dr. Joe S. asked about the Academies Distance Learning capabilities and Dave Duquette will report on this at the next CB meeting.

- Dr. Joe S. reported on the NH ACTS conference that brought together Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS personnel and went very well.

- Kathy D. asked all Board members to return their completed Bio Forms to be used for updates to the web site and Bureau records.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Dave D., seconded by Shawn M. – adjourned 3:20 PM

V. NEXT MEETING

NOVEMBER 20, 2003 – 1:00 PM – Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy - Concord

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne M. Prentiss, Bureau Chief, EMS
(Prepared by Kathy Doolan, Field Services Coordinator)